



Dallas County Pioneer Association

Founded 1875, Reorganized 1979
P. O. Box 12496
Dallas, Texas 75225

Past Presidents

John R. Nelms	1979
Bill Baird	1980
Lloyd Miller	1981
Earl Cullum	1983
Bill Jacoby	1984

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1986

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 5, 1986, at Wyatt's Northlake Cafeteria, Northwest Highway at Ferndale. Eat at 6:00 P.M. Pay cashier and sign attendance register. Program begins at 7:00 P.M. Noted artist Julia Thompson Kirkpatrick will discuss and exhibit paintings of early area structures. Bring guests and new member prospects.

We are dedicated to preserving the history of Dallas County and those who settled here before 1880. Anyone with such interest may be a member, regardless of when your family arrived. Fees are \$10.00 initiation; \$15.00 a year dues, or \$150.00 Life Membership. A couple may belong for \$15.00 initiation, \$25.00 a year dues, or \$250.00 for Life Memberships. If you are not a member (or have not paid your 1986 dues), we invite you to join or rejoin. The secretary has Application Forms.

Submit any changes or corrections to Roster and/or mailing list; also your suggestions for By-Law or Procedure changes. Submit names and addresses of prospective members we should invite to join. If you have not received your Membership Certificate, notify the secretary. If you know good prospective speakers, let us know about them.

Mark your calendars for the September 4th and December 4th Meetings. Our "Pioneer Families" Book is progressing nicely, and we can soon brag about it. We also brag about our good members who clear the table after they eat, pay their checks before the program, and bring visitors and new member prospects. They don't "smoke up" our meeting room, or talk when we are listening to the speaker. Aren't they great?

Each president of the original DCPA remained in office until his death, but the reorganized DCPA prefers to change presidents more often. The original organization held only 18 recorded meetings in 77 years, for an average of less than four meetings per president. Today's presidents have four regular meetings each year, and all have survived them so far.

At the 1892 Pioneer Reunion held at Garland, Dr. Arch Cochran spoke to the meeting for nearly an hour and a half. Then that evening the train back to Dallas was so crowded that most of the passengers had to stand up all the way. Maybe if we had to wait for a train in 1986, our speakers could talk on and on, but probably most of us would start walking home instead.

Four of the five original DCPA presidents, plus several other DCPA officers, used military titles (Colonel, Major, Captain) regularly, and we assume they were earned titles. The wide use of rank titles in the past resulted in many abuses, however. In addition to titles earned in wartime and peacetime military service, some State Governors handed out unearned titles freely, and of course some "self-appointed" titles were used. One Dallas pioneer was a wartime captain, but as he got older he adopted the title "Colonel" as better fitting his age and importance.

In Washington "Colonel" E. M. House was a widely-known White House aide during World War I, and in later years "Colonel" Harlan Sanders became a well known fried chicken king. Both these titles were honorary governor's appointments.

Only one of the reorganized DCPA officers uses a military title, primarily for military-related matters. He earned it in an overseas war theater, and by authority of the President of the United States. Now retired, he still answers to the title easily.

A stagecoach was robbed near Abilene, Texas, on February 4, 1884, and a Deputy Sheriff was killed. An unarmed passenger Sam P. Cochran of Dallas was slightly wounded. Cochran later became an outstanding Masonic official, and his statue can be seen today at the Masonic Temple lawn on South Harwood Street in Dallas.



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